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THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON 20220

December 19, 1984

Executive Registry

84- 10026/4

UNCLASSIFIED (With Confidential Attachment)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE SECRETARY OF STATE THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT & DEPUTY TO THE CHIEF

OF STAFF

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR CABINET AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT:

Senior Interdepartmental Group on International Economic Policy (SIG-IEP)

The attached paper is provided as a guide for discussion of the U.S.-Japan economic issues under consideration at the SIG-IEP meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 20, 11:00 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room.

Donald T. Regan

UNCLASSIFIED (With Confidential Attachment)

SIG-IEP: Japan

I suggest that our discussion on Thursday concentrate on four major points of a proposed approach for the President.

- l. We should adopt the "MOSS" approach of intensive negotiations by sectors for a small initial group to be "blessed" by the President and Prime Minister Nakasone.
- 2. The President should press Prime Minister Nakasone for a results oriented program to open up the Japanese economy. This would also involve setting a broad target for increased imports of manufactured goods by Japan.
- 3. The President should indicate to the Prime Minister that, unless there are concrete results, there might be irresistible demands for retaliation.
- 4. There should be high level follow-up to insure Japan lives up to its commitments.

We have not reached a consensus on the following elements:
(a) at which level a target should be set; (b) whether the
President should mention retaliation; and (c) whether the
President should seek Prime Minister Nakasone's agreement to
a short list of specific sectors to be the object of MOSS
negotiations, or whether he should simply mention them in
an illustrative way.

The arguments in favor of a target are that, despite its basic theoretical drawbacks, it could produce rapid results and would be achievable without undue economic distortions if the MOSS approach is implemented effectively. On this assumption, Treasury has suggested a target of increasing Japanese manufactured imports as a share of GNP by 1/3 in 3 years -- an increase of roughly 50 percent in nominal dollars over the 1983 level, equal to about 1% of Japan's GNP.

There was some apparent confusion at the last meeting as to the implications of this proposed target. For clarification, attached are tables that present the Treasury proposed target and relevant historical data.

December 18, 1984

<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>
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JAPAN
ONE-THIRD INCREASE IN GLOBAL MANUFACTURED IMPORTS
AS PERCENT OF GNP OVER 3 YEARS
(Value in \$U.S. billions)

	1983ª	1984 ^P	1985 ^P	1986 ^P	\$ Change 1983-86
GNP	\$1,156	\$1,202	\$1,250	\$1,300	12%
Manufactured Imports	\$ 32	\$ 37	\$ 43	\$ 48	50%
% of GNP	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	33%

Note: Assumes real GNP growth of 4% per year and 0% inflation. This compares with an average GNP growth of roughly 5% (nominal) for the period 1981-1983.

a=actual, p=projected.

Manufactures=chemicals, machinery, basic manufactures, and other manufactures except mineral fuel products, processed food, fat, oils, firearms of war, and ammunition.

JAPAN
GLOBAL MANUFACTURED IMPORTS 1980-1983
(Value in \$U.S. billions)

	1980	1981	1982	1983	* Change 1980-83
Manufactured Imports	\$30.7	\$31.3	\$30.3	\$31.9	4.0%
Change from Previous Yr.	13.3%	2.0%	-3.2%	5.3%	NA
& of GNP	3.0%	2.78	2.94	2.8%	NA

Note: See above for definition of manufactured imports.

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December 18, 1984

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CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT:

Senior Interdepartmental Group on

International Economic Policy (SIG-IEP)

A meeting of the SIG-IEP is scheduled to be held on Thursday, December 20, at 11:00 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room.

The agenda will be further discussion on U.S.-Japan economic issues continued from the December 18 meeting. Attendance will be principal plus one.

Donald T. Regan

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